

CLARK HILL

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July 21, 2011

Jeff S. Jordan
Supervisory Attorney
Complaints Examination & Legal Administration
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20463

VIA FACSIMILE: (202) 219-3923

Re: MUR 6474: Complaint against Citizens for Josh Mandel

Dear Mr. Jordan:

We are writing this letter on behalf of Josh Mandel, Citizens for Josh Mandel, and Steven R. Cuckler, in his official capacity as Treasurer, and Citizens for Josh Mandel (State Campaign) (collectively referred to as the "Respondents") in response to the Complaint filed in the above-referenced matter by the Ohio Democratic Party ("ODP") and David L. Duffey, ODP's Operations Manager. The Complaint was clearly filed for publicity and political gain, and is based solely on speculation and innuendo. The asserted facts on their face do not support a reason to believe finding in this matter, and the Complaint should be dismissed.

The Commission may find "reason to believe" only if a Complaint sets forth sufficient specific facts, which, if proven true, would constitute a violation of the Federal Election Campaign Act (the "Act"). See 11 C.F.R. § 111.4(a), (d). Unwarranted legal conclusions from asserted facts or mere speculation will not be accepted as true. See MUR 4960, Commissioners Mason, Sandstrom, Smith and Thomas, Statement of Reasons (Dec. 21, 2001). Moreover, the Commission will dismiss a complaint when the allegations are refuted with sufficiently compelling evidence. See *id.*

While the Complaint is somewhat unclear, and riddled with unsubstantiated and accusatory language such as "seems," "presumably," "may have," and "apparently," it appears to argue that Respondents violated the Act by using resources of Josh Mandel's state campaign and his official state Treasurer's office to support his campaign for the U.S. Senate. These accusations are baseless and unsupported by the facts. Each spurious allegation is addressed in turn below.

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FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
2011 JUL 22 AM 9:16
OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

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1. Pursuant to a List Exchange Agreement, Mandel's U.S. Senate Campaign's Use of His State Campaign's Email List Is Entirely Permissible and Does Not Constitute a Contribution from the State Campaign to the Federal Campaign.

The Complaint takes issue with Respondent's use of Josh Mandel's State Treasurer campaign's email list, stating that "this valuable transfer of the email list asset was presumably done without cost to the Committee," (Complaint at 2) and that "the Committee appears to be utilizing the e-mail list of the State Campaign...without paying for its use." Complaint at 4. The Complaint identifies "no source of information that reasonably gives rise to a belief in the truth of the allegations presented," with regard to this allegation. See MUR 4960, Commissioners Mason, Sandstrom, Smith and Thomas, Statement of Reasons (Dec. 21, 2001).

In actuality, Josh Mandel's U.S. Senate Campaign has a list exchange agreement in place with his State Treasurer Campaign that is wholly in accordance with the Commission's regulations and previous advisory opinions, and which does not result in any such "transfer of assets," as the Complaint myopically asserts. The Commission has been clear on the issue of list exchange agreements. In Advisory Opinion 1981-46 (Dellums), the Commission concluded that:

a current use of names in exchange for a future use of the names of another political committee does not result in a contribution within the definition of 2 U.S.C. 431(8) (A). Based on the assertion that this kind of exchange is an accepted practice in the field of direct mail fundraising, the Commission takes the position that when the Committee provides names to another political committee in exchange for its own future use of a corresponding number of names which are of equal value, that this constitutes an arms length business transaction between the committees and is not a reportable contribution under the Act.

This is precisely the type of arrangement that Respondents have with Josh Mandel's State Treasurer Campaign. Mandel's U.S. Senate Campaign and his State Treasurer Campaign have engaged in an arms length business transaction where the State Campaign has provided its email list to the U.S. Senate Campaign in exchange for the future use of the U.S. Senate Campaign's updated list of a corresponding number of names of equal value. As the Commission has plainly concluded above, such a transaction does not constitute a contribution.

In light of the list exchange agreement between Mandel's federal and state campaign, and the fact that no "transfer of assets" ever occurred between the two campaigns, the Commission should promptly dismiss this claim.

2. Mandel's U.S. Senate Campaign is not "Utilizing" the State Campaign's Website, and the Senate Campaign's Use of the Domain Name www.JoshMandel.com does not Constitute a Violation of the Act.

The Complaint makes the hollow accusation that Mandel's U.S. Senate campaign "is utilizing the State Campaign's website and has taken over the domain name www.JoshMandel.com at no

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apparent cost." Complaint at 2. It goes on to allege that "the use of the website constitutes another prohibited transfer of an asset of the State Campaign." Complaint at 4. This allegation is based entirely on conjecture.

As an initial matter, ODP relies on a 1998 advisory opinion that has been largely superseded by the Commission's remakings on internet communications and coordinated communications as support for this groundless allegation. Under the logic set forth in the Complaint, that "a website that expressly advocates the election of a Federal candidate, such as www.JoshMandel.com, is considered 'something of value' under the Act," it would follow that a website that only expressly advocates the election of a state candidate would have no value to Mandel's federal campaign. How could Josh Mandel's state Treasurer campaign website therefore be "something of value" to Mandel's federal campaign? Moreover, by employing ODP's faulty rationale, all state officeholders or candidates who use their own names as their state campaign's website Uniform Resource Locator ("URL") would not be able to use the same URL for their federal campaign websites if they chose to run for federal office.

In reality, Mandel's federal campaign has paid \$7,410 to the website development company, Emotive LLC ("Emotive"), based in Arlington, VA, to host, design, and regularly update content for Mandel's U.S. Senate Campaign's website. These disbursements are reflected in detail on page 944 of Citizens for Josh Mandel's July 2011 Quarterly Report, filed with the Commission last week.¹ Mandel's State Treasurer Campaign used an entirely different web hosting and development company, New Media Campaigns ("NMC"), based in Carrboro, NC to host and design Mandel's State Campaign website. When Mandel decided to run for the U.S. Senate, his federal campaign engaged Emotive to coordinate an arms-length transaction with NMC to take over the hosting and development of www.JoshMandel.com. This was done for fair market value and in accordance with industry standards, and was in full compliance with the Act and the Commission's regulations. ODP provides no factual evidence to demonstrate anything to the contrary.

Once again, in making this contention, ODP presents "no source of information that reasonably gives rise to a belief in the truth of the allegations presented." See MUR 4960, Statement of Reasons, *supra*.

3. Respondents Have Not Accepted a Prohibited Contribution from the State of Ohio.

The second part of the Complaint's "Legal Argument" section presents another legally flawed and tenuous allegation against Respondents that is based solely on speculation. Here, ODP asserts that "Citizens for Josh Mandel may have accepted a prohibited contribution from the State of Ohio" (Complaint at 5), and that "Mandel has apparently been having his office research and draft releases trumpeting his accomplishments, which are then posted on the Committee's website and emailed to the old State Campaign email list, just as if they were generated by the Committee itself." Complaint at 2. It then declares that "[i]n his official capacity as State Treasurer, Mr. Mandel has apparently devoted State resources to publishing materials which describe his political accomplishments to date." Complaint at 5-6. The Complaint goes on to

¹ See Citizens for Josh Mandel, July 2011 Quarterly Report, at 944, attached as Exhibit A.

July 21, 2011

Page 4

state that "[t]hese materials, and the resources used to develop them are clearly 'goods and services,'" and that "[s]ince these goods and services appear to have been provided to the Committee at no charge, they constitute an 'in-kind contribution' to the campaign from the State of Ohio." Complaint at 6. ODP does not cite any specific actions of Respondents in this section that would constitute a violation of the Act or any other federal or state law.

As purported "evidence" in support of this baseless allegation, ODP offers as Exhibit A to the Complaint a one page printout of an "E-Newsletter Update" from the official website of the Ohio Treasurer's Office, and a one page printout of Mandel's U.S. Senate Campaign's website. It should be noted that these printouts are the sole sources of these allegations incorporated into the Complaint.

Importantly, the E-Newsletter Update from the Ohio Treasurer's website and the update on Mandel's U.S. Senate Campaign's website are not at all political in nature. Neither update advocates for the election or defeat of a clearly identified federal (or state) candidate, and both fail to even reference a federal or state election. Instead, the E-Newsletter Update from the Ohio Treasurer's website and the update on the Senate Campaign's website focus solely on policy issues, such as "capitalizing on municipal bond rates" and "leveraging technology to modernize banking practices." See Complaint, Exhibit A. Therefore, because both updates fail to mention an election, and do not advocate for the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate, consideration of these website printouts falls outside the jurisdiction of the Commission and is irrelevant to this matter.

Secondly, ODP has not presented any evidence that the E-Newsletter it references was even created using official resources of the State of Ohio. Just because a State Treasurer's Office has articles or newsletters posted on its official website does not mean that the time and effort in creating these works is automatically attributable to "state resources" or the Treasurer's "state office." It is commonplace for official state government websites in Ohio, and throughout the country, to contain articles, newsletters, updates, white papers, etc. that are created outside of government and without using any official government resources.

In this case, this is precisely what occurred with regard to the E-Newsletter referenced by ODP in its Complaint. The non-political policy content of the E-Newsletter was created by individuals on their personal time, and outside the official duties of the Treasurer's office, and merely posted on both the official Treasurer's website and the U.S. Senate Campaign's website. None of these activities were in violation of any state or federal rule or law, and they most certainly did not constitute the receipt of a prohibited contribution of any kind, as the Complaint nonsensically alleges.

Assuming *arguendo* that the Treasurer's office was responsible for creating the E-Newsletter (which it in fact was not), it would not be in violation of the Act, or any other state or federal law, because it was not at all political in nature. As mentioned above, the E-Newsletter lacked any reference to a federal or state election, and did not expressly advocate the election or defeat of a clearly identified candidate. Instead, it was an update newsletter focused strictly on policy matters.

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A cursory review of the Ohio Senate's official website reveals that every State Senator's website contains press releases lauding the accomplishments of their respective offices. Furthermore, most of these State Senators have non-political content like press releases appearing identically or linked on their official websites as well as on their campaign websites. For instance, compare the official websites of Democratic Ohio State Senators Nina Turner² and Joe Schiavoni with their campaign websites. Senators Turner and Schiavoni have non-political press releases that appear identically on both their official and campaign websites. Under ODP's flawed rationale, this should trigger ODP to file state elections complaints against the campaign committees of Senators Turner and Schiavoni for accepting illegal contributions from the State of Ohio. Printouts of Turner's and Schiavoni's official and campaign websites are attached as Exhibit B and C, respectively.

In fact, the President of the United States is no exception to this common practice.³ Attached as Exhibit E is a screenshot of President Obama's weekly address, "Working Together to Meet Our Fiscal Challenges" (July 9, 2011), that appears on his campaign website, www.barackobama.com, and his official government website, www.whitehouse.gov. This video was clearly filmed with the use of government resources and posted on the official White House youtube.com page, yet it also appears on his campaign website. Under the ODP's flawed logic, this should trigger them to file a complaint against Obama's Presidential Campaign, Obama for America, for accepting an illegal contribution from the federal government.

Interestingly, under ODP's argument, ODP would be in violation of the very thing of which they accuse respondents. In fact, under this flawed rationale, ODP would be in violation of receiving prohibited in-kind contributions from the State of Ohio, the U.S. House of Representatives, and the U.S. Senate through its use of official resources from all three bodies. ODP's website contains non-political biographies of members of "Our Team" that appear identically on these elected representatives' official websites. The most glaring examples are the biographies of Ohio Supreme Court Justice Yvette McGee Brown and State Senate Minority Leader Capri Cafaro, both of which appear verbatim on the Ohio Supreme Court's official website and the Ohio Senate's official website, respectively. Under ODP's flawed logic, this should trigger them to file a state elections complaint against the campaign committees of Justice Brown and Senator Cafaro for accepting illegal contributions from the State of Ohio.

Likewise, U.S. Representative Betty Sutton's non-political biography on ODP's website is identical to the biography on her official U.S. House of Representatives website. Brown's and Sutton's biographies also contain photographs that are identical to those on their official websites.⁴ The situation is the same or similar for ODP Team Members, Senator Sherrod Brown, Congresswoman Marcia Fudge, Congressman Dennis Kucinich, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, Congressman Tim Ryan, and Ohio House of Representatives Minority Leader, Armond Budish.

² State Senator Nina Turner's official website, www.ohiosenate.gov/nina-turner.html, contains an official press release entitled "Senator Turner Announces Loan to Create and Retain Jobs in Garfield Heights," and her campaign's website, ninaturner.org, contains the exact same official press release. See Exhibit B.

³ See screenshot printouts of official White House videos and materials from www.whitehouse.gov appearing on President Obama's campaign website, www.barackobama.com, attached as Exhibit D.

⁴ Printouts of ODP's "Our Team" biographies and official biographies are attached as Exhibit F.

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July 21, 2011

Page 6

Although ODP's website and its Democratic officeholders' websites are not the subject of the Complaint in this matter, their contents indicate ODP's ignorance of the Act and the Commission's regulations, and only further demonstrate ODP's cynical political motives in filing the Complaint in the first place. The law is consistent and contrary to ODP's hypocritical assertions. Neither the foregoing examples from the Turner, Schiavoni, Obama, Brown, Cafaro, Sutton, or ODP websites, nor Respondent's use of non-political content created by individuals on their personal time without state resources, would constitute contributions under the Act or Ohio state law.

Conclusion

Respondents find it regrettable that the Ohio Democratic Party in this matter has invoked an administrative process designed to protect the integrity of our elections for cynical political advantage. The Complaint is undercut by a lack of credibility and substantiation, and is based entirely on politically motivated and malicious speculation. Respondents respectfully request that the Commission recognize the legal and factual insufficiency of the Complaint on its face and quickly dismiss it. A quick resolution may not completely deny ODP the imagined political benefits that it seeks, but it will serve to protect the integrity of the Commission enforcement process.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles R. Spies
CLARK HILL PLC

*Counsel to Respondents Josh Mandel,
Citizens for Josh Mandel, Citizens for Josh Mandel
(State Campaign) and Steven R. Cuckler, in his
official capacity as Treasurer*

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BEFORE THE FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL

MUR # 0474

Name of Counsel: Charles R. Spies

Clark Hill PLC

1250 Eye Street, NW Suite 250

Washington, DC 20005

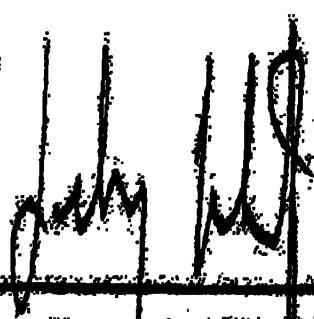
13044332089

Telephone: (202) 572-8663

Fax: (202) 572-8683

The above-named individual and/or firm is hereby designated as my counsel and is authorized to receive any notifications and other communications from the Commission and to act on my behalf before the Commission.

7/20/11



Treasurer

Date

Respondent/Client Signature

Title

Respondent/Client

Citizens for Josh Mandel (State Committee)

1010 Locust Ave. Suite 200
Columbus, OH 43201

13044332090

2112 Acacia Park Drive, Suite 504
Lyndhurst, OH 44124

Telephone - Home:

Business: 305-588-9010

Information is being sought as part of an investigation being conducted by the Federal Election Commission and the confidentiality provisions of 2 U.S.C. 437g(a)(2)(A) apply. This section prohibits making public any investigation conducted by the Federal Election Commission without the express written consent of the person under investigation.

13044332091

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A

**SCHEDULE B (FEC Form 3)
ITEMIZED DISBURSEMENTS**

Use separate schedule(s)
for each category of the
Detailed Summary Page

FOR LINE NUMBER:
(check only one)

PAGE 944 / 982

☒ 17 ☐ 18 ☐ 19a ☐ 19b
20a 20b 20c 21

Any information copied from such Reports and Statements may not be sold or used by any person for the purpose of soliciting contributions or for commercial purposes, other than using the name and address of any political committee to solicit contributions from such committee

NAME OF COMMITTEE (In Full)
Citizens for Josh Mandel

A.

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)
Delta Airlines

Transaction ID: B-E-1986
Date of Disbursement

Mailing Address 1030 Delta Boulevard

06 / 30 / 2011

City Atlanta State GA Zip Code 30354-1989

Amount of Each Disbursement this Period

Purpose of Disbursement
Airfare

901
Category/
Type

538.20

Candidate Name

Office Sought: ☐ House ☐ Senate ☐ President
State: District:

Disbursement For: 2012
☒ Primary ☐ General
☐ Other (specify) ▼

B.

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)
EMotive

Transaction ID: B-E-827
Date of Disbursement

Mailing Address 2800 S Shirlington Road
Suite 901

04 / 27 / 2011

City Arlington State VA Zip Code 22206-3619

Amount of Each Disbursement this Period

Purpose of Disbursement
website development

001
Category/
Type

4067.50

Candidate Name

Office Sought: ☐ House ☐ Senate ☐ President
State: District:

Disbursement For: 2012
☒ Primary ☐ General
☐ Other (specify) ▼

C.

Full Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)
EMotive

Transaction ID: B-E-834
Date of Disbursement

Mailing Address 2800 S Shirlington Road
Suite 901

05 / 28 / 2011

City Arlington State VA Zip Code 22206-3619

Amount of Each Disbursement this Period

Purpose of Disbursement
website development

001
Category/
Type

3328.50

Candidate Name

Office Sought: ☐ House ☐ Senate ☐ President
State: District:

Disbursement For: 2012
☒ Primary ☐ General
☐ Other (specify) ▼

SUBTOTAL of Disbursements This Page (optional)

7945.20

TOTAL This Period (last page this line number only)

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B

13044332094

THE OHIO SENATE

Legislators | House | Senate

Home | Senators | Senators | Committees | Legislation | Elections | Tour | Links

Thursday, July 21, 2011



Senator Turner recently joined Governor Kasich in announcing the new state budget, and a State House press conference.



OHIO'S 25TH SENATE DISTRICT

Counties: Cuyahoga (part)

[\[View Complete District Map\]](#)

Ohio's 25th Senate District

[« Previous District](#) | [Senate Members](#) | [Next District »](#)



Nina Turner (D)

Senator

State Senator Nina Turner represents Cleveland and the 25th Senate District. She joined the Ohio Senate in September 2006 after serving on Cleveland City Council. An outspoken advocate of the disenfranchised and under-represented, Senator Turner believes that if individuals are provided with the means they will craft for themselves their own American dream. Senator Turner began her political career as a legislative aide to former State Senator Rhina McLin. She also served in the Administration of former Cleveland Mayor Michael White. In addition to her duties in the Ohio Senate, Senator Turner teaches at Cuyahoga Community College.

[\[Read Complete Biography\]](#)

Senator Snapshot

Hometown: Cleveland

Party: Democrat

Elected Experience: State Senator since 2006; Cleveland City Councilwoman, 2006-2008

Current Term: Expires December 2014; Eligible to run for another four-year term

[Contact](#) | [Committees](#) | [Bills](#) | [Resolutions](#) | [Media](#)

06.29.2011

[Senator Turner Responds to Final Budget Passage](#)

COLUMBUS - State Senator Nina Turner issued the following statement after voting "no" on the final version of the biennial state budget (HB 153) as reported by the Conference Committee:



06.09.2011

[Senator Turner Responds to Budget Passage](#)

Columbus - State Senator Nina Turner issued the following statement after the Ohio Senate passed the amended version of House Bill 153, the state's biennial budget for fiscal years 2012 and 2013.

[Read more...](#)

04.11.2011

[Senator Turner Announces Loan to Create and Retain Jobs in Garfield Heights](#)

Columbus - State Senator Nina Turner announced that the State Counseling Board approved a \$500,000 Department of Development Innovation Ohio Loan to Acropolis Spine Corporation (ACS) in Garfield Heights, an inner-city suburb of Cleveland.

[Read more...](#)

03.23.2011

[Senator Turner and Mayor Jackson Call for Legislation to Share Services](#)

Columbus - State Senator Nina Turner introduced Senate Bill 185 to give cities and municipalities more authority to share services. The legislation, proposed by Cleveland Mayor Frank G. Jackson, would allow municipalities to enter into contracts that would let them perform services for one another while sharing cost and resources.

[Read more...](#)



STATE SENATOR
NINA TURNER

25TH DISTRICT

*****Press Release***
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 11, 2011**

**Contact: Adam Warren
(614) 466-4583**

Senator Turner Announces Loan to Create and Retain Jobs in Garfield Heights

Axiomed Spine Corporation will hire additional workers for product development

Columbus—State Senator Nina Turner (D-Cleveland) announced today that the State Controlling Board approved a \$500,000 Department of Development Innovation Ohio Loan to Axiomed Spine Corporation (ACS) in Garfield Heights, an inner-ring suburb of Cleveland. The loan will lead to the creation of six new jobs while retaining 25 existing jobs.

"I am pleased to learn of the state's continuing commitment to promoting Northeast Ohio's emerging medical technology field," said Senator Turner. "This is yet another great example of the public and private sectors working together to produce a positive outcome for our communities."

The loan will allow ACS to purchase production tooling, equipment and surgical instruments. The equipment will be used in the development of their new Freedom Lumbar Disc products, a total disc replacement for the lowest vertebrae.

"This is truly a win-win for everyone," said Turner. "The investments will help create and retain jobs and assist ACS in developing and manufacturing products that will help improve the quality of life for chronic back pain sufferers."

Founded in 2001, ACS' mission is to develop products for patients who suffer from Degenerative Disc Disease. The Garfield Heights-based company is an emerging medical device company designing spine products to restore natural spine function through total disc replacement. The Department of Development's funding represents 74 percent of the total investment.

The Controlling Board provides legislative oversight over certain capital and operating expenditures by state agencies and has approval authority over various other state fiscal activities.

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Print Publications:

September 2008

- [Nina Turner's appointment to Ohio Senate may require two special elections - Plain Dealer](#)

November 2009

- [State Sen. Nina Turner takes politics in the aftermath of voters' overwhelming approval of Issue 6 - Plain Dealer](#)
- [Nina Turner's future bright due to gutsy stand on Issue 6 - Plain Dealer](#)
- [State Sen. Nina Turner proposes changes to Ohio sex offender laws - Plain Dealer](#)

February 2010

- [Senator Nina Turner seeking re-election, not county exec. job - WKYC-TV](#)
- [Nina Turner to seek on Cuyahoga County executive, seek new term in Ohio Senate - Plain Dealer](#)

May 2010

- [Local Hispanics echo how ails in their call for immigration reform - The Plain Dealer](#)

December 2010

- [Senate Republicans reject 78 Strickland appointments - Columbus Dispatch](#)

January 2011

- [Ohio says 'I don't need your people' - Politico](#)

February 2011

- [Students Learn the Path to Becoming an Elected Official - The Guardian](#)

March 2011

- [Ohio Senate Limits Public Union Rights: Bill Goes Beyond Wisconsin Proposal - Huffington Post](#)
- [Ohio Senate Approves Union Bill - New York Times](#)
- [Ohio Sen. Nina Turner reintroduces bill that would help Cleveland sell services - Plain Dealer](#)
- [Cleveland as 'mother city' is a concept that must somehow return to vogue: Phillip Morris - Plain Dealer](#)

April 2011

- [Senator Turner announces Loan to Create and Retain Jobs in Garfield Heights - Statehouse Press Release](#)
- [Senator Turner Urges Federal Commission to Rejoin in Oil Market Speculation - Statehouse Press Release](#)

May 2011

- [Senator Turner Announces Innovation Ohio Loan for Enbridge Company - Statehouse Press Release](#)
- [State Sen. Nina Turner says 99 state workers lost jobs the day after Kasich unveiled his 'jobs budget' - Plain Dealer](#)
- [Ohio Legislative Black Caucus, clergy speak out against Senate Bill 5 - Plain Dealer](#)

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Community Poll

What should most concern your elected leaders?

Funding Education

0%

Unemployment

0%

Reproductive Rights

0%

Foreclosure

0%

Voter Fraud

0%

Wage Stagnation

0%

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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Adam Warren

April 11, 2011

(614) 442-4553

Senator Turner Announces Loan to Create and Retain Jobs in Garfield Heights

AutoMed Spine Corporation will hire additional workers for product development

Columbus –State Senator Nina Turner (D-Cleveland) announced today that the State Controlling Board approved a \$500,000 Department of Development Innovation Ohio Loan to AutoMed Spine Corporation (ACS) in Garfield Heights, an inner-ring suburb of Cleveland. The loan will lead to the creation of six new jobs while retaining 25 existing jobs.

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Upcoming events

- American Constitution Society, NEO Chapter: Redistricting in Ohio (26 days)

more

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Community Poll

What should most concern your elected leaders?

Funding Education

0%

Unemployment

0%

Reproductive Rights

0%

Foreclosure

0%

Voter Fraud

0%

Wage Stagnation

0%

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C

HOME MEET JOE NEWS ABOUT THE 33RD DISTRICT ENDORSEMENTS PHOTO GALLERY GET INVOLVED CONTACT JOE

Senator Joe Schiavoni - News

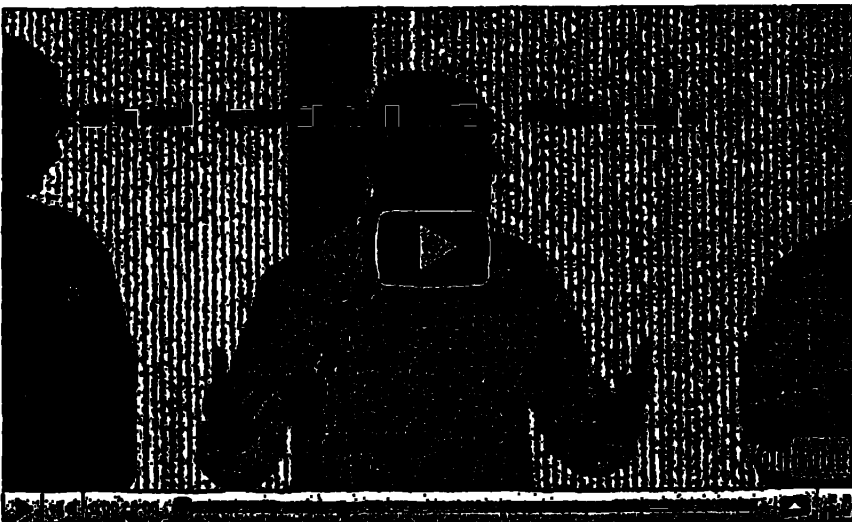
State Senator Joe Schiavoni Reps Ohio's 33rd



Contribute Today!

Amount: \$10 USD

Joe Schiavoni Presentation At Northern States Metals



Senator Joe Schiavoni - News

Page 2 of 3

Legislator gets a firsthand look at how MicroMD® electronic medical record and practice management solutions are supporting providers in transforming health care

COLUMBUS, OHIO – June 8, 2010 – Henry Schein Medical Systems, a provider of proven and cost-effective practice management (PM) and electronic medical records (EMR) systems, today announced that Senator Joe Schiavoni (D-Ohio) has commended the Company for its successful health care strategy and continued growth, despite challenging economic conditions.

Senator Schiavoni visited Henry Schein Medical Systems' Boardman, Ohio, headquarters on June 7 to learn more about the Company, and to find out how its MicroMD electronic medical record and practice management solutions are supporting health care providers in eliminating operational inefficiencies and improving care delivery.

"During my visit to Henry Schein Medical Systems, I was impressed not only with the Company's deep commitment to the delivery of innovative health care information technology solutions, but also with its significant growth during tough economic times as well as its strong community focus," said Senator Schiavoni. "I was able to witness firsthand Henry Schein Medical Systems' contribution to the local community and also had the opportunity to better understand how solutions such as MicroMD are helping providers effectively address many of the issues that are at the forefront of health care reform initiatives."

After a brief presentation on Henry Schein Medical Systems and its product offerings, Senator Schiavoni took a tour of the corporate offices, where he was introduced to Team Schein Members and learned about the Company's daily operations. During a lunch in his honor, Senator Schiavoni and the Henry Schein Medical Systems team then discussed some of the most pressing challenges facing the health care industry, as well as the Company's strategy for effectively addressing these challenges and facilitating the industry's continued growth. Senator Carol Case (D-Ohio) and Representative Ramon Echevarry (D-Ohio) accompanied Senator Schiavoni on his visit and tour.

"We are pleased to have Senator Schiavoni recognize Henry Schein Medical Systems as a leader in the health care information technology field and as a business leader in the State of Ohio," said Ralph Stiller, General Manager and Vice President of Henry Schein Medical Systems. "The Senator's visit has demonstrated how lawmakers and businesses can learn from each other and work together to improve health care delivery."

Founded in 1982 by Ajit Kumar, Henry Schein Medical Systems' operations are based in the Northeastern Ohio region, where the Company employs more than 84 local residents and continues to achieve steady growth.

About MicroMD and Henry Schein Medical Systems

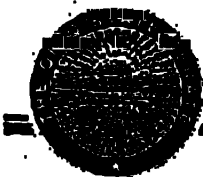
Henry Schein Medical Systems MicroMD provides simple yet powerful EMR and practice management solutions that help facilitate the delivery of superior patient care; automate incentive and quality reporting activities; and streamline operations for today's busy providers. Full-featured, time-tested and budget-friendly, the MicroMD CCHP-certified, award-winning software helps small practices, large medical groups, community health centers and billing services accelerate progress towards a paperless environment and health information exchange with minimal disruption and stress. High client retention rates attest to its market-leading presence and client-centric focus. Visit us at www.micromd.com or call 1-800-824-8532.

About Henry Schein, Inc.

Henry Schein, a Fortune 500® company and a member of the NASDAQ 100® Index, is recognized for its excellent customer service and highly competitive prices. The Company's four business groups - Dental, Medical, International and Technology - serve more than 600,000 customers worldwide, including dental practitioners and laboratories, physician practices and animal health clinics, as well as government and other institutions. The Company operates through a centralized and automated distribution network, which provides customers in more than 200 countries with a comprehensive selection of more than 90,000 national and Henry Schein private-brand products in stock, as well as more than 100,000 additional products available as special-order items. Henry Schein also provides exclusive, innovative technology offerings for dental, medical and veterinary professionals, including value-added practice management software and electronic health record solutions.

Headquartered in Manhasset, N.Y., Henry Schein employs more than 13,000 people and has operations or offices in 23 countries. The Company's net sales reached a record \$6.1 billion in 2009. For more information, visit the Henry Schein Web site at www.henryschein.com.

Ohio Senate Passes Senator Schiavoni's Amendment



STATE SENATOR
JOE SCHIAVONI

33RD DISTRICT

13044332101

COLUMBUS - The Ohio Senate voted today to pass House Bill 338, which contained Senator Joe Schiavoni's (D-Canfield) amendment: to allow early judicial release for misdemeanor, nonviolent offenders.

"This legislation was a collaborative effort between county court and municipal judges in my district, and the Ohio Judicial Conference," Senator Schiavoni said. "This measure will allow less serious offenders to be released earlier if the judge decides to reduce the sentence."

The amendment to H.B. 338 was originally introduced by Senator Schiavoni as Senate Bill 267; however, was amended into the House Bill during the Senate Committee on Civil Justice. The amendment states that the court maintains jurisdiction over every offender sentenced to jail and may modify sentences at any time, but does not give authority to reduce mandatory sentences.

"Judges already had the statutory authority to grant early release for felony offenders, so this provision is making the law more uniform," Schiavoni said. "I would also hope that this revision yields positive side effects, such as reducing jail costs and overcrowding."

The amendment also states that if a prosecutor wishes to have a hearing before a sentence is returned, the courts must comply and hold a hearing. The Senate passed Amended H.B. 338 with a vote of 32-0.

Senators Cafaro And Schiavoni Support New Auto Franchise Law



FROM THE OFFICES OF STATE SENATORS
CAPRI S. CAFARO & JOE SCHIAVONI

Columbus - Senate Democratic Leader Capri S. Cafaro (D-Hubbard) and Senator Joe Schiavoni (D-Canfield) voted today to support Senate Bill 204 which updates Ohio's automobile franchise law for the first time in 30 years. The legislation passed the Ohio Senate by a vote of 33-0.

"It was a long process for the auto manufacturers and dealers to come to an agreement," said Senator Cafaro.

"Senator Schiavoni and I worked diligently to help reach a compromise because we know how important the auto industry is to the Motor Valley."

Senate Bill 204 makes changes to the process by which franchise agreements can be terminated. The legislation is intended to strike a balance between the needs of manufacturers competing in a global economy and the rights of dealers who make sizable investments in their facilities.

"I appreciate that all the parties were able to work through their differences and reach an agreement," said Senator Schiavoni. "We should be doing all we can to promote strong business relationships between our auto dealers and manufacturers because they create jobs for the Motor Valley."

The legislation is the result of recommendations from a report compiled by the General Assembly's Joint Select Committee on the Impact of the Changing Automobile Industry in Ohio. Senator Cafaro was a member of the bipartisan committee which held five hearings throughout Ohio in 2009.

More Articles...

Ohio Senate Votes to Support Delphi Retirees

Senate Democrats Believe Congress Should Comply with Inspector General's Request

The Ohio Senate Approves Memorial Highway Bill

State Senators Cafaro and Schiavoni Testify on Behalf of Delphi Retirees

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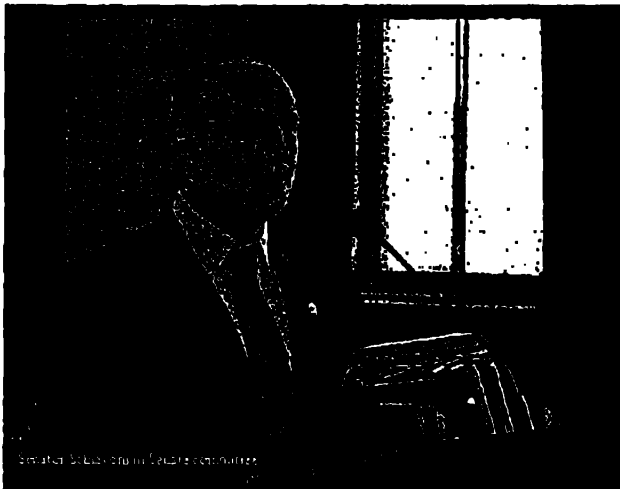
Paid for by Friends of Joe Schiavoni, Louis Schiavoni, Treasurer, 87 Westchester Dr., Austintown OH, 44513

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Wednesday, July 20, 2011



OHIO'S 33RD SENATE DISTRICT

County: Carroll, Mahoning, Stark (part), Tuscarawas (part)

[View Complete District Map]

Ohio's 33rd Senate District

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Joe Schiavoni (D)

Senator

Senator Joe Schiavoni represents the 33rd Senate District encompassing Mahoning, Carroll and portions of Stark and Tuscarawas counties. He grew up in Boardman and graduated from Ohio University with a BA in Communications and obtained a law degree from Capital University. He joined the Ohio Senate in January 2009.

Senator Schiavoni also serves as an attorney representing injured workers.

[Read Complete Biography]

Senator Snapshot

Hometown: Canfield

Party: Democrat

Elected Experience: State Senator since 2009

Current Term: Expires December 2014; Eligible to run for another four-year term

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04.11.2011

Senator Schiavoni Comments on Passage of State Budget, Race-track Legislation

Columbus - State Senator Jim Schiavoni rejected the proposed State Budget (HB 153), while expressing concern about the negative effects it will have on Ohioans.

●

06.09.2011

Donnerstag Schienenski Kommentar zum Budget Vote

Columbus - State Senator Joe Schiraldi issued the following statement after voting "no" on the State Budget (HB 153):

09.23.2011

Senator Schiavoni Introduces Legislation to Protect Ohio's Highest-Achieving Schools

Columbus - State Senator Jon Schiewel introduced legislation that would prevent a low-achieving community school from gaining additional taxpayer funds by enrolling students who are residents of a better performing public school.

22

04.05.2011

Senator Schiavoni Calls for Protection Against Cyber Bullying in Schools

Colinvaier - State Senator Joe Schiavone presented sponsor testimony for Senate Bill 127, also known as the Justice League Act. The bill addresses anti-bullying policies in Ohio's schools by adding new or better bullying or harassment laws.

Read more 12

01.04.2011
Senator Richard J. Durbin Collection Bargaining Memo

Columbus - As the ranking Democrat on the Insurance, Commerce & Labor Committee, State Senator Joe Schiavoni is urging Ohioans to take a closer look at the so-called Senate

Bill 5 savings memo released by the Office of Collective Bargaining and the Department of Administrative Services.

[Read more...](#)

02.09.2011

Senate Bill 5 Launches Attack on Working Families

Columbus - State Senator Joe Schiavoni called the introduction of Senate Bill 5 an attack on working families. The legislation eliminates collective bargaining for state employees and binding arbitration for local police and firefighters.

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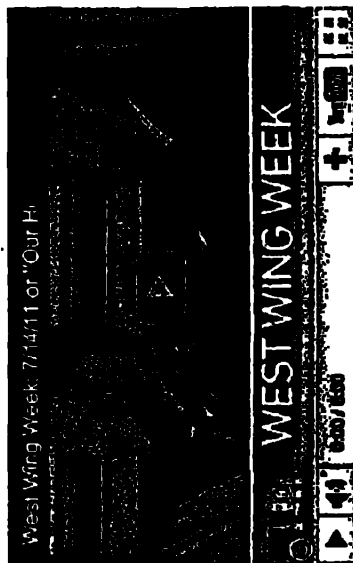
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**WEST WING WEEK: OUR HEROES ARE
ALL AROUND US**

Period by Month by Year



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West Wing Week: 7/14/11 or "Our Heroes Are All Around Us"

July 14, 2011 | 5:19 | Public Domain

This week, the President conducted meetings with a host of congressional leaders, awarding the medal of honor, and personally spoke to the country about the ongoing negotiations at the White House.

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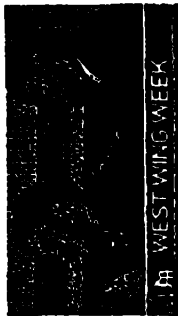
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President Obama's News Conference on Deficit Reduction
 July 18, 2011



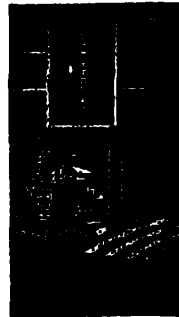
West Wing Week: 7/14/11 or "Our Heroes Are All Around Us"
 July 14, 2011



Open for Questions: Disability Policy
 July 14, 2011



Press Briefing
 July 14, 2011



Press Briefing
 July 12, 2011



Open for Questions: Inspiring Richard Wright
 July 12, 2011



Medal of Honor for Sergeant First Class Leroy Arthur Petty
 July 12, 2011



President Obama's National HIV/AIDS Strategy
 July 12, 2011

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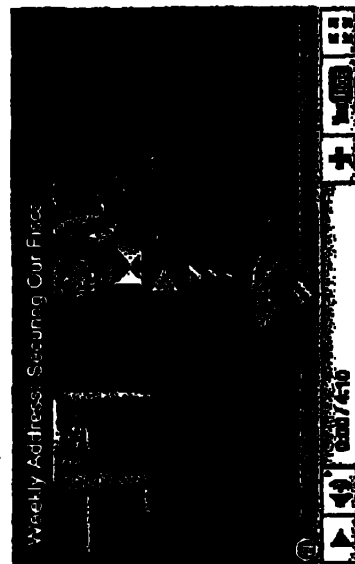
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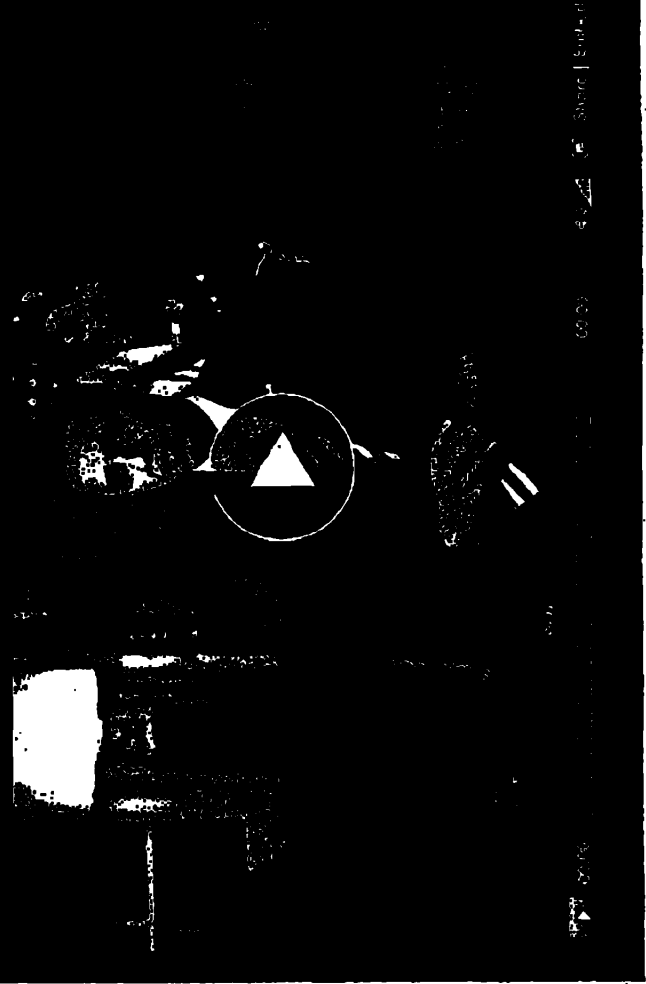
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Weekly Address: Securing Our Fiscal Future

July 15, 2011 | 4:03 | [Public Domain](#)

President Obama emphasizes the importance of compromise and shared solutions so that we can overcome our fiscal challenges and get our economy on a stronger footing going forward.

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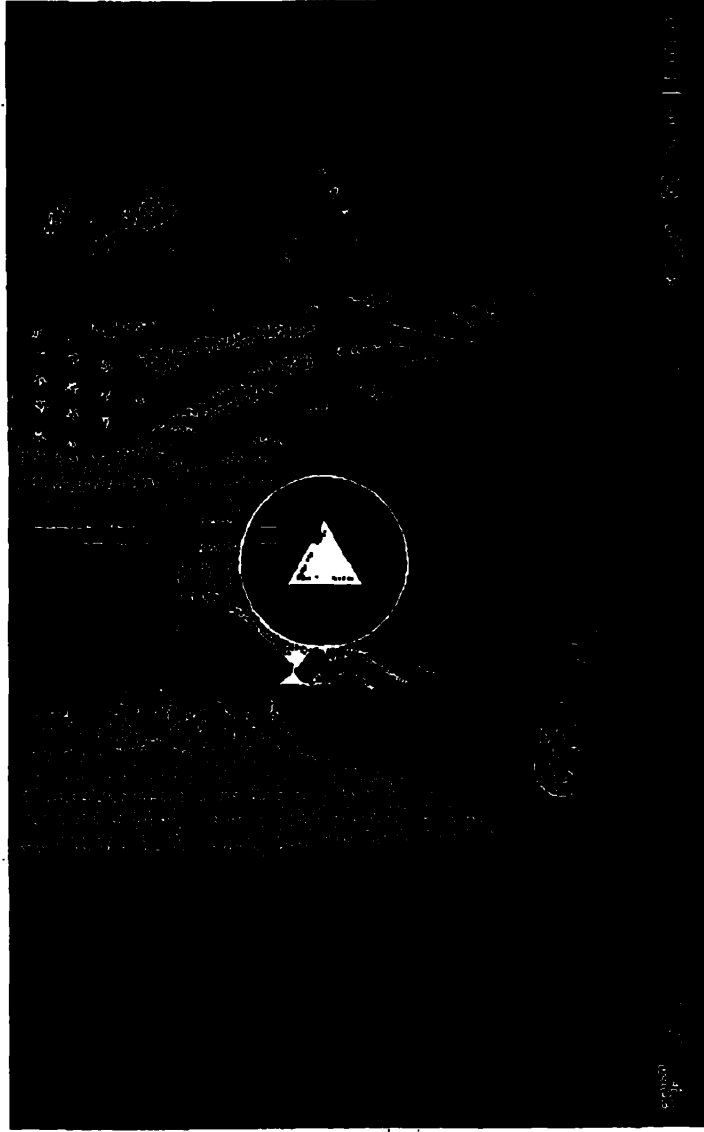
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Weekly Address: Working Together To Meet our Fiscal Challenges

July 09, 2011 | 3:28 | [Public Domain](#)

President Obama calls on both parties to come together to find a balanced approach to deficit reduction that lets us live within our means without hurting investments our economy needs to grow and create jobs.

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WEEKLY ADDRESS: WORKING TOGETHER TO MEET OUR FISCAL CHALLENGES

Posted by Mary on July 09, 2011



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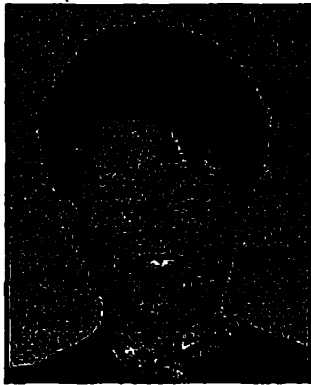
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Justice Yvette McGee Brown



A series of firsts defines the judicial career of Justice Yvette McGee Brown. She was the first African-American elected to the Franklin County Domestic Relations/Juvenile Court. In January 2011, she became the first African-American woman to serve as a Justice on the Supreme Court of Ohio.

Justice McGee Brown was first elected to the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, Domestic Relations and Juvenile division in 1992. As lead Juvenile Court Judge, she led the creation of the Family Drug Court and the SMART Program, a truancy and educational neglect intervention program. She served on the Common Pleas Court until 2002, when she retired from the bench to create the Center for Child and Family Advocacy at Nationwide Children's Hospital. The Center is a multi-disciplinary child abuse and family violence program that co-locates prevention, assessment, treatment, research and advocacy services for children and families experiencing abuse. She served as founding president until early 2010, when she became a candidate for lieutenant governor of Ohio.

A common theme in Justice McGee Brown's professional and community work is her advocacy for children and families. In the news release announcing her Supreme Court appointment, Justice McGee Brown said her service to Ohio's children and families would continue on the Court: "I have been fortunate to have a life and career that has allowed me to pour my heart into helping others and expanding opportunities for vulnerable Ohioans. I look forward to bringing my diverse experiences and thoughtful perspectives to my work on the Ohio Supreme Court."

Justice McGee Brown graduated from Ohio University in 1982 with a degree in journalism/public relations. She continued her education at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, earning her Juris Doctorate in 1985.

An active community and corporate leader, Justice McGee Brown has served on the boards of Ohio University, The Ohio State University Medical Center, the National Council of the OSU Moritz College

of Justice McGee Brown. She is the former chair of the United Way of Central Ohio, The Ohio State University Alumni Association and the YWCA Columbus Board of Directors. In 2008, Justice McGee Brown was inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame. Among her many honors, she has received the Champion of Children Award, YWCA Woman of Achievement Award and several honors from Ohio University and The Ohio State University.

Justice McGee Brown is married to Tony Brown. They have three children.

[Visit Justice Brown's website.](#)

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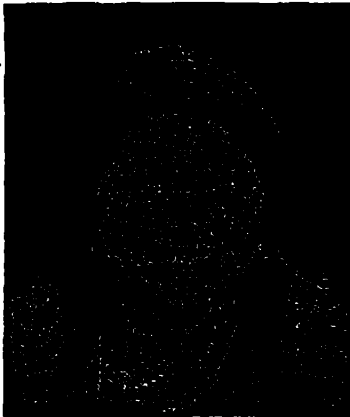
Justice McGee Brown is married to Tony Brown. They have three children and one grandson.

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Senate Minority Leader Capri Cafaro



Capri S. Cafaro has been Minority Leader of the Ohio Senate since January 2009. She joined the General Assembly in 2007 and represents the 32nd Senate District which includes Ashtabula and Trumbull counties in Northeastern Ohio.

Senator Cafaro graduated from Stanford University with a BA in American Studies and from Georgetown University with a MALS in International Studies. She has a long standing interest in public policy pertaining to health care and the needs of older adults. She has served on the Trumbull County Senior Services Advisory Council and was a State Policy Liaison for Ohio with the National Patient Advocate Foundation. She was also a State Advocate Representative for the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare and served as a councilor for the Medicare Rights Center.

One year after becoming a member of the Ohio General Assembly, Cafaro secured a leadership position as the Assistant Minority Whip for the Senate Democrats. In addition to her leadership roles, Senator Cafaro has previously served as the ranking member of the Senate Finance and Financial Institutions Committee and served on the Senate Health, Human Services and Aging Committee, Highways and Transportation Committee and the Joint Legislative Ethics Committee.

As a member of the legislature, Senator Cafaro has also served on many of Ohio's special committees, councils and taskforces. Such appointments include: the Joint Committee on the Impact of the Changing Automobile Industry in Ohio, the Ohio Arts Council, the Ohio Rail Development Commission, the Ohio Transportation Task Force, The Ohio Agriculture to Chemicals, Polymers, and Advanced Material Task Force, the Ohio Advisory Council for the Aging, the Medicaid Administrative Study Council, the Unemployment Compensation Advisory Council, the Unified Long-Term Care Budget Workgroup and the Joint Legislative Committee on Health Care Oversight.

Senator Cafaro was selected for a national leadership role as a Vice Chair of the National Conference of State Legislatures' Transportation Committee and the Midwestern Regional Member of the Women's Legislative Network.

Cafaro was presented with the 2007-08 Legislator of the Year Award by the Ohio Association of Advanced Practice Nurses for her outstanding contributions to the practice of advanced nursing and advocacy of health care-related legislation. She was also honored as the 2008 Woman of the Year Award by the Liberty Historical Society. In 2008 she was named a Friend of Agriculture by the Ohio Farm Bureau and was awarded the honor of being one of the five MVP's in her "40 under 40" Class, selected and hosted by the Mahoning Valley 20/30 Club.

In 2009, Senator Cafaro was recognized as Legislator of the Year by a variety of organizations, including the Ohio Speech and Hearing Governmental Affairs Coalition, the Ohio Farmer's Union, AMVETS Department of Ohio and the Ohio Corn Growers Association, Wheat Growers Association, and Soybean Association for her leadership and support of Ohio's bioproducts industry and Ohio agriculture. Her leadership on agricultural issues also led to a new purchasing program that will increase the use of bioproducts by state agencies and universities.

In September of 2010, Cafaro was recognized as a "Home Care and Hospice Hero" by the Ohio Council for Home Care and Hospice for her efforts to protect vital home care services for some of Ohio's most vulnerable citizens. She was also a 2010 Power 100 Honoree in Inside Business magazine. Additionally, Senator Cafaro was re-elected by her colleagues to serve as Senate Minority Leader in the 129th General Assembly.

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Monday, July 18, 2011

Senator Capri S. Cafaro, Minority Leader 32nd Senate District

PDF Version



Capri S. Cafaro has been Minority Leader of the Ohio Senate since January 2009. She joined the General Assembly in 2007 and represents the 32nd Senate District which includes Ashland and Trumbull counties in Northeastern Ohio.

Senator Cafaro graduated from Stanford University with a BA in American Studies and from Georgetown University with a MALS in International Studies. She has a long standing interest in public policy pertaining to health care and the needs of older adults. She has served on the Trumbull County Senior Services Advisory Council and was a State Policy Liaison for Ohio with the National Patient Advocate Foundation. She was also a State Advocate Representative for the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare and served as a counselor for the Medicare Rights Center.

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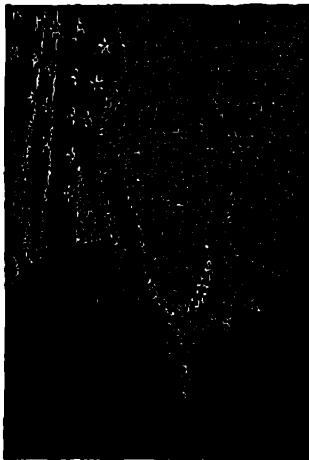
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Congresswoman Betty Sutton



A leader who makes a difference for Northeast Ohio, Betty Sutton has spent her life fighting to make the lives of Ohioans better. Her work both as a labor lawyer and as a public servant has earned her a reputation as an independent leader and tenacious advocate for the people of Ohio. She has made a career putting the greater good of the many ahead of special interests of the few.

Betty has never been afraid to take on tough fights and to do what is right, even in the face of unbeatable odds. In 1977, Sutton fought tirelessly from her post on the Commerce and Labor Committee, against attacks on workers compensation benefits. After the Republican-controlled legislature passed the harmful bill, Betty worked alongside workers in Northeast Ohio and across the state to repeal the anti-worker law through a referendum.

While in the Ohio State House in 1996, Sutton was the only person to vote against a bill that contained a perk for a millionaire developer. The amendment -- what Sutton called "corporate welfare" was finally removed by the Senate despite the overwhelming House approval.

During her eight-year tenure in the Ohio State House, Sutton became a leader on a wide range of issues, including health care, education, pensions and retirement, and consumer protection to make government more accessible and effective for Northeast Ohioans.

Betty's passion and dedication to take on tough fights, stand up for what is right, and protect and increase Ohioans' standard of living earned her the respect of her colleagues and constituents as well as awards for Legislator of the Year by the Ohio Academy of Trial Lawyers and the Friend of Education Award from the Barberton Education Association.

~~Sutton worked~~ to get to the U.S. House of Representatives so she could make the lives of Northeast Ohioans better. Betty brings Midwestern values and common sense to Washington that reflects the region's hard-working families, fighting spirit, and moral convictions.

In Washington, Sutton helped lead the effort on ethics reform so that Northeast Ohioans will see policies that benefit all Americans, not ~~against~~ interests and the privileged few. Sutton has dedicated herself to doing everything possible to revitalize Northeast Ohio's economy in order to protect the region's hard-working families and make their day to day lives better.

Congresswoman Sutton sits on the House Armed Services Committee and the House Natural Resources Committee.

She has played a leading role in helping pass legislation that will help provide affordable healthcare for our children and seniors, make education more affordable and accessible, and protect Ohio's hard working families' right to unionize.

Betty has also been a leader in developing a new trade model that will work for Ohio's working families and businesses -- a key component of helping revitalize Northeast Ohio. She is focused on working with local, state, and national leaders to help develop new fair trade policies and foster investment in technology and innovation that will create high-quality, high-paying jobs for Northeast Ohioans.

Just as she has always done, Betty will stand up for what is right, no matter how great a fight and will devote herself to finding innovative solutions that will make a positive difference for her constituents.

Betty has long served the people of Northeast Ohio in the State Legislature, the Summit County Council, Barberton City Council, and currently, in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Betty brings common sense and a keen understanding of the needs of her constituents to Washington, DC. She was born and raised in Barberton, Ohio as the youngest of six children. Her mother was clerk-treasurer for the city library and her father worked in the local boiler maker factory. Betty attended public schools and graduated from Kent State University, where she studied political science.

She then enrolled in Law School at the University of Akron, where she received a Dean's Club Scholarship and earned both the American Jurisprudence Award and Federal Bar Association Award for Outstanding Performance in Constitutional Law. During her first year of law school, following the principles of public service instilled by her parents, Betty ran for and won an at-large seat on the Barberton City Council.

A year later, when a vacancy occurred on the Summit County Council, Betty was chosen to fill the vacancy in the at-large position, where she had the opportunity to serve all the residents of Summit County. In her second year on the County Council, Betty was elected by her peers to serve as the Vice President of the Council.

Betty ~~inter went on to~~ serve eight years in the Ohio State House of Representatives before continuing her advocacy on behalf of Ohioans in the private sector as a labor lawyer with the firm of Finkler, Mankovitz & Phillips LLP (FMP). Congresswoman Sutton's work representing first responders, teachers, nurses and other workers, fighting for fair wages, safe working conditions and family-sustaining benefits led her to run for the open Congressional seat in the 13th District in 2006.

Congresswoman Sutton resides in Copley Township with her husband Doug.

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE

BETTY SUTTON

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A Leader Who Makes a Difference for Northeast Ohio

Betty Sutton has spent her life fighting to make the lives of Ohioans better. Her work both as a labor lawyer and as a public servant has earned her a reputation as an independent leader and tenacious advocate for the people of Ohio. She has made a career putting the greater good of the many ahead of special interests of the few.

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A Leader Who Fights for Her Constituents

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A Leader with 13th District Roots

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